



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Office of Public Affairs
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240
202-208-6843 phone
202-219-0910 fax

National Park Service News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – May 24, 2006
David Barna 202 208-6843
Gerry Gaumer 220 208-4989

National Parks Offer Good Old Fashioned Fun for Visitors

Washington, D.C. – The National Park Service (NPS) is pleased to kick-off the upcoming travel season with many new and exciting adventures awaiting park visitors, as well as traditional programs that families come back time and again to enjoy. From the shores of Maine and Alaska to the Rocky Mountains of Colorado to the warm beaches of California and the Virgin Islands, national parks offer something for everyone.

NPS Director Fran Mainella said, “These magnificent places pay homage to our ancestors and inspire our children to become better stewards of the parks for tomorrow. National parks have the power to stir our souls, reinvigorate our spirit, and renew our commitment. They provide incredible opportunities to experience the marvelous natural and cultural heritage of our country. I welcome you to our parks.”

The National Park Service has developed and made available a web site to help inform visitors about what’s new in national parks this year. Learn about the many park events, activities, and new facilities that have been planned or are available for the upcoming travel season. Visit the “National Parks: The Place to be for Family Fun” website at: <http://www.nps.gov> to learn more about what’s happening in national parks across the country.

Some summer highlights at our parks include:

- On June 10 and 11, visitors to Antietam National Battlefield will have the opportunity to experience an *Artillery Weekend*. The rolling terrain and the heavy reliance on artillery by Union and Confederates made Antietam one of the most significant artillery battles in the Civil War. Artillery firing demonstrations will be held throughout Saturday and Sunday.
- The annual 3-day *CanalFest* at the C&O Canal National Historical Park will be held on July 7-9. The park will be filled with activities for visitors, including music, walking tours, programs, exhibits, crafts and canal boat replica tours, food and more.

(more)

- Celebrate Hawaii's unique cultural heritage at the 26th Annual Hawaii Volcanoes National Park *Cultural Festival*! The free festival will be held on Saturday, July 15th, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the park's Kahuku unit in Ka'u. Enjoy hula and Hawaiian music. Learn Hawaiian arts and crafts. Make a lei, feather kahili, and lauhala bracelet. Taste Hawaiian foods and play traditional games and musical instruments. Be sure to bring water, sunscreen, a groundmat and rainjacket. This will be the 26th year that the park festival has brought together kupuna (elder), keiki (child), kama'aina (resident), and malihini (newcomer) for a day of fun and sharing.
- On June 15 and again on August 10, Eisenhower National Historic Site invites visitors to join a National Park Ranger for a walk through downtown Gettysburg to learn more about the Eisenhower's' life in the Gettysburg community.
- Visitors to Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site can experience the 1840s with teachers, students and living history volunteers and staff perfecting their 19th century skills at a special *Educator's Encampment*. The encampment, which begins June 8, trains participants in presenting living history to the public. The event is open for the public to view ongoing demonstrations on Saturday and Sunday, June 10 – 11.

The National Park Service always recommends stopping by the park's visitor center to get the latest, most up-to-date park information. In addition, NPS reminds visitors that safety is critical, and hikers should stay on marked trails and let family members and/or friends know their whereabouts. Remember to dress appropriately for the elements and activities you are going to engage in, and it's always best to have plenty of water on hand. Parks Rangers are easily recognizable in their distinctive green and gray uniforms. Ask questions...that's what they are there for!

-NPS-

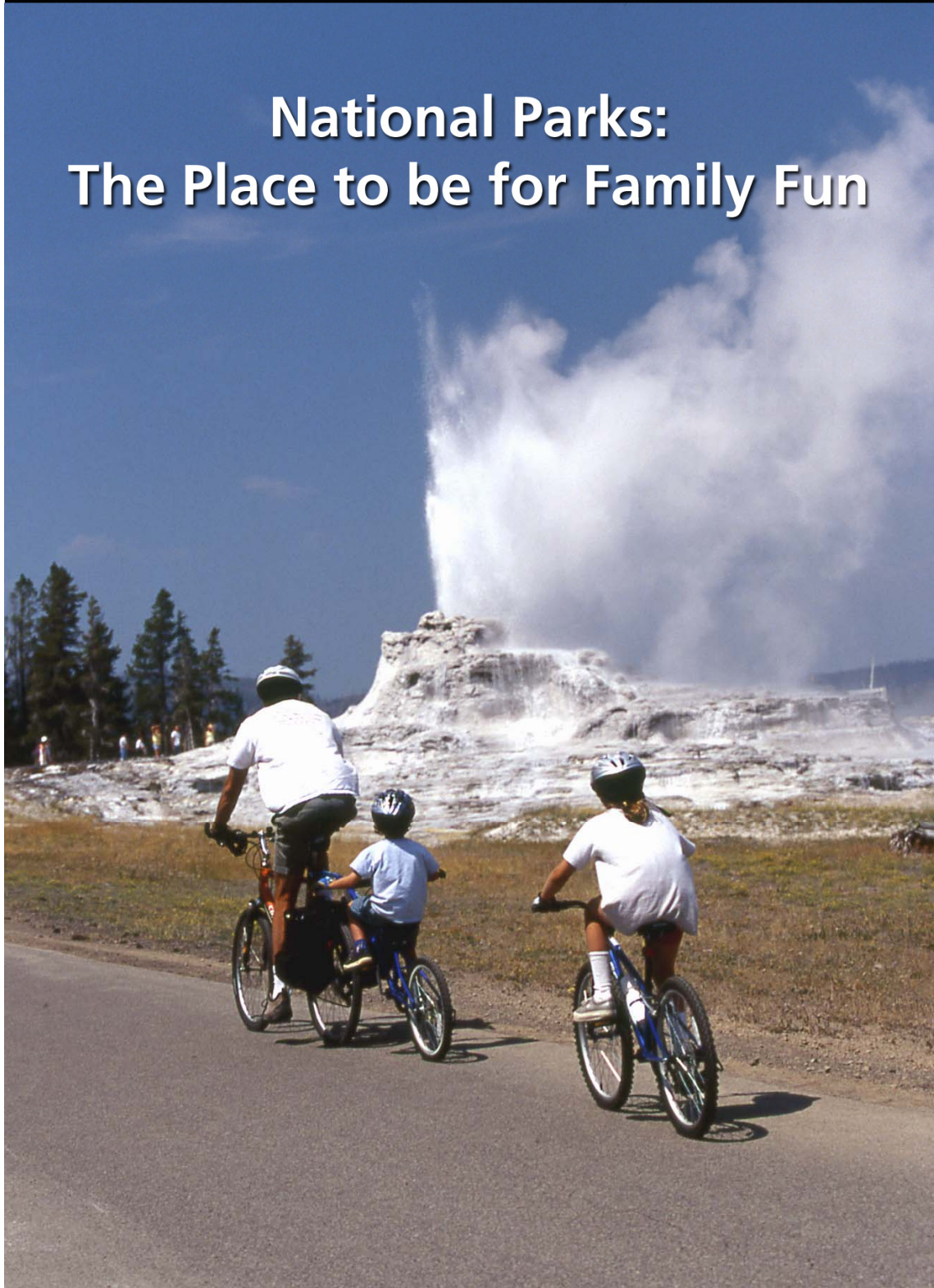
National Park Service

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National Parks: The Place to be for Family Fun





National Parks: The Place to be for Family Fun

"The national park idea has been nurtured by each succeeding generation of Americans. Today, across our land, the National Park System represents America at its best. Each park contributes to a deeper understanding of the history of the United States and our way of life; of the natural processes which have given form to our land, and to the enrichment of the environment in which we live." *George B. Hartzog, Jr. – NPS Director, 1964-1972*

Every summer millions of Americans, as well as visitors from around the world, make a visit to at least one of America's National Parks. There are now 390 units in a National Park System that preserves and protects many of this nation's most valued natural and cultural areas. From the shores of Maine and Alaska to the Rocky Mountains of Colorado to the warm beaches of California and the Virgin Islands, national parks offer something for everyone.

This summer travel season will offer many new and exciting adventures for park visitors. In addition to the many traditional ranger led programs in the parks, there are many more special programs available for visitors to enjoy and a number of new facilities opening to the public this year.

The National Park Service has the honor of preserving stunning natural areas such as Grand Canyon National Park in Arizona or Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming/Montana, hallowed areas such as Gettysburg National Military Park in Pennsylvania or Kings Mountain National Military Park in South Carolina, and historic homes such as Harry S Truman National Historic Site in Missouri and Adams National Historical Park in Massachusetts. What better way to enjoy your summer than to visit a National Park and enjoy one of the many exceptional programs available to visitors.

The National Park Service has developed and made available a web site to help inform visitors about some of the special events and activities that have been planned for the upcoming travel season and information about what's new in national parks this year. Visit the "***National Parks: The Place to be for Family Fun***" website at <http://www.nps.gov> to learn more about what's happening in national parks across the country.

National Park Service

2006 Special Park Program Information

Intermountain Region



Bandelier NM

Bandelier National Monument, NM

90th Anniversary Activities - Bandelier was established on February 11, 1916 - so we're inviting everyone to join us in celebrating our 90th Anniversary this year (as well as the 100th anniversary of the Antiquities Act). For the calendar of upcoming activities, look under heading Management Documents. For more information, call the Visitor Center at (505) 672-3861 x 517.

Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site, CO

Educators' Encampment, June 10 – 11: Visit the 1840s with teachers, students and living history volunteers and staff perfecting their 19th century skills. The encampment, which begins June 8, trains participants in presenting living history to the public. Event is open for public to view ongoing demonstrations on Saturday and Sunday, June 10 – 11. Pre-registration is required for the full encampment (participation is limited). For information, call (719) 383-5023.

"The Night the Stars Fell" Evening Program, August 12: The Perseid Meteor Shower should light the sky for this evening program which explores another shower which stunned North America in 1833 during the fort's construction. See how different cultures responded to this wondrous event. Program begins at 8 p.m.

Mesa Verde National Park, CO

100th Anniversary Celebration, June 29 - The park will celebrate its 100th anniversary. It was the first national park set aside to preserve the works of humankind.

San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, TX

Moment of Remembrance – (May 29) A brief ceremony commemorating those who died so that we might enjoy the gift of freedom, will be held at each of the mission sites. Local

High School color guards and band members will play taps and raise the flag during the Moment of Remembrance.

National Parks America Tour Clean Up Day - (September 9) Sponsored by Unilever and Wal-Mart who recruit volunteers to help the park with resource management projects and area clean up. For more information or to sign up as a volunteer call (210) 932-1002 ext 223.

Archaeology Day – (Oct. 7) Mission San José hosts hands-on activities, exhibits, and lectures for the whole family. Activities will emphasize techniques, information learned from digs/artifacts found at the missions, importance of preservation, and future archeology planned for the park. Assisting is the Texas Historical Commission and UTSA Legacy Program as part of Texas Archeology month.

Day of the Dead - (Oct. 29 & 30) This two-day park sponsored event provides activities and programs to explain the history behind its symbolism and relevance. Ofrendas, or altars, will be constructed in Mission San José Visitor Center and the church.

Artesanos del Pueblo – (Nov. 3, preview reception, Nov. 4 & 5) A Celebration of Folk Art Artists specializing in American, Texan, Mexican, Honduran, and Guatemalan folk art demonstrate and sell their works of art. This free event is sponsored by the park's friends group, Los Compadres. Proceeds are used to benefit the park. A registration fee of \$50 is charged for the Nov. 3rd evening preview reception. For more information about this event call Los Compadres at (210) 922-3218.

Los Pastores - (Dec. 30) This Mexican folk play depicts the shepherd's journey to worship the Christ Child and the obstacles the devil puts before them. This traditional play has been presented each year at Mission San José since 1947. Contact: Elizabeth Dupree, 210-534-8875 ext. 227.



Petrified Forest NP

Petrified Forest National Park, AZ

100th Anniversary of Petrified Forest - Set aside in 1906 as Petrified Forest National Monument under the Antiquities Act and upgraded to national park in 1962, Petrified Forest will celebrate its centennial with a variety of special events, workshops, activities,

exhibits, and programs. A special centennial webpage is under development, but a calendar of events is currently at http://www.nps.gov/pefo/100th_calendar.htm.

Midwest Region

George Rogers Clark National Historical Park, IN

30th anniversary of a Revolutionary War era living history event - Partnering with the Spirit of Vincennes, Inc., the park will celebrate the 30th anniversary of a Revolutionary War era living history event. This event is expected to attract 600+ reenactors and 35 to 40 thousand visitors. The Annual event was highlighted in the 1999 NPS study "Reenactors in the Parks" as an example of NPS and community partnership. www.spiritofvincennes.org or Contact: Frank Doughman, 812- 882-1776 ext. 104



Indiana Dunes NL

Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, IN

"Celebrating 40 years of Dunes Stewardship 1966 - 2006" - The Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, in partnership with the Porter County Convention, Recreation and Visitor Commission, will open a new visitor center in the fall of 2006. This joint visitor center is being built by the County and will feature a shared visitor information area, auditorium, and space leased to the park for exhibits and a bookstore operation. The center, located along IN 49, the major access road to the dunes, will increase the number of visitor center contacts from 60,000 to an estimated 252,000 per year. Contact: Bruce Rowe, 219-926-7561 ext. 231.

Ozark National Scenic Riverways, MO

Two festivals of traditional Ozark culture - the Ozark Heritage Days, held each June at Big Spring near Van Buren, Missouri, and the "Haunting In the Hills" held at Alley Mill near Eminence, Missouri each October. (dates TBA) Both events feature live music, storytelling, demonstrations of traditional crafts such as barrelmaking, candelmaking, soapmaking, wood carving, etc.

During the summer, there will be ongoing craft and cultural demonstrations at Alley Mill, as well as exciting and informative interpretive programs every weekend in the major campgrounds. The historic Alley Mill will be open daily from Memorial Day through Labor Day for those looking to get a feel for life in an Ozarks frontier settlement of the

1890s, complete with one room school and blacksmith shop. For more updated information see our website at: www.nps.gov/ozar

National Capital Region



Antietam NB

Antietam National Battlefield, MD

Artillery Weekend, June 10, 2006 - June 11, 2006 -

Artillery Weekend- The rolling terrain and the heavy reliance on artillery by Union and Confederates made Antietam one of the most significant artillery battles in the Civil War. Artillery firing demonstrations will be held throughout Saturday and Sunday. Near the visitor center, Park Staff, 301 432-5124.

First Texas Weekend at Sharpsburg, July 29, 2006 - July 30, 2006 - First Texas Weekend at Sharpsburg- Living history volunteers from Medich's Confederate Battalion will tell the story of the men from the First Texas regiment at Antietam. Weapons and tactics demonstrations will be held throughout Saturday and Sunday, with ongoing interpretation in the camp throughout the day.

Battle Anniversary Weekend, September 15, 2006 - September 17, 2006 - Battle Anniversary Weekend- A weekend full of special hikes and programs will be announced in late August.

Torch Light Tour, September 16, 2006 - Torch Light Tour- Living History volunteers portray vignettes of the Maryland Campaign. Witness the impact of the bloodiest single day in American History on the men who fought as well as the local civilians. Call (301) 432-5124 for reservations starting August 1, 2006.

18th Annual Memorial Illumination, December 2, 2006 - Eighteenth Annual Memorial Illumination- Volunteers place over 23,000 candles on the battlefield; each representing a casualty from the bloodiest single-day-battle in American History. Driving tour begins at 6:00 p.m. on Route 34 east of Sharpsburg. In the event of high winds or heavy rain, this event will be rescheduled to December 9th. Note: The Visitor Center will be open from 8:30 a.m. through 3:00 p.m. Several of the park roads will not be available to tour after 3:00 p.m.

Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park, MD

CanalFest - The annual 3-day CanalFest on July 7-9 will be filled with activities to include music, walking tours, programs, exhibits, crafts and canal boat replica tours, food and more. Times and events to be announced. For further information on activities call 301-722-8226 or 1-800-989-9394.

Mary Mcleod Bethune Council House National Historic Site, DC

Bethune Statue - Lincoln Park, 11th and East Capitol Streets NE, Washington, DC - July 10th is the official birthday of Mary McLeod Bethune. A formal wreath-laying ceremony at 6 p.m. celebrates the 131st birthday of the African-American educator, human rights activist and founder of the National Council of Negro Women, Mary McLeod Bethune. This year's celebration marks the 32nd anniversary of the wreath-laying ceremony the erection of the Bethune Memorial on July 10, 1974. Those wishing to attend will gather in Lincoln Park at the 12-foot tall Bethune Statue. For further information call 202-673-2402.



President's Park

Presidents Park (White House), DC

National Christmas Tree Lighting and Pageant of Peace - This year marks the 83rd National Christmas Tree, opening the annual Christmas Pageant of Peace. Date and time to be determined. For further information call 202-208-1631.

Lighting Ceremony – (NW end of Ellipse near Constitution Ave) - This year is the 28th Anniversary of the National Chanukah Menorah and the 27th Lighting Ceremony. The lighting of the world's largest Menorah to mark the Festival of Chanukah, eight day Jewish holiday commemorating the success of the Jewish Maccabean army against Syrian oppression, and the liberation and rededication of the Second Temple in Jerusalem nearly 2,200 years ago. Tickets are required. Date and time to be determined. For further ticket information please call 202-332-5600.

Vietnam Veterans Memorial, DC

Memorial Day Observance - This year's annual Memorial Day observance on May 29 at 1 p.m. pays tribute to those that served and died in Vietnam. The ceremony will include

Presentation of the Colors, remarks by special guest. The observance also includes a laying of wreaths by Patriotic Organizations. Contact: 202-619-7222.

Veterans Day Observance – Veterans Day will be observed with speeches, speakers and color guard, and a wreath-laying ceremony on November 11 at 1 p.m. at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. For further information call 202-619-7222.

Arlington National Cemetery, VA

Memorial Day - Memorial Day will be commemorated at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier with a wreath laying ceremony and a special military concert on May 29 at 11 a.m. The U.S. Army Band will perform. For further information call 703-695-3175.

The Women's Memorial Annual Memorial Day - The Women's Memorial annual Memorial Day ceremony on May 29 will include remarks by military women and personal tributes to departed comrades. The Women In Military For America Memorial is the nation's only major memorial honoring all servicewomen, past, present and future. For further information call 703-533-1155.

Tomb of the Unknown Soldier - The nation's veterans who died in war are honored with a wreath-laying ceremony on November 11 at 11 a.m. followed by a memorial service. The President of the United States or a representative will lay the wreath. A military band will provide music. For further information call 703-607-8000.

Women In Military Service For America Memorial, at the gateway to Arlington National Cemetery - A wreath will lay at the memorial during a ceremony at the memorial with formal military honors, keynote address and veteran's remarks on November 11 at 3:30 p.m. For more information call 1-800-222-2294.

U.S. Navy Memorial, Washington, DC

Wreath Laying Ceremony - A wreath-laying ceremony in observance of Memorial Day - Takes place at the Navy Memorial on May 29 at 1 p.m. For further information call 202-737-2300.

The United States Navy Band - Outdoor concert at the Navy Memorial on May 29 at 8 p.m. For further information call 202-737-2300.

Wreath Laying Ceremony - The Naval District of Washington will lay a wreath at the Lone Sailor Statue in commemoration of Veterans Day on November 11 at 1 p.m. The U.S. Navy Ceremonial Band, Ceremonial Guard and Color Guard will participate in the public ceremony. For further information call 202-737-2300.

Wreath Laying Ceremony - December 7 at 1 p.m. to commemorate the attack on Pearl Harbor. Contact: 202-737-2300.

National Mall, DC

40th Annual Smithsonian Folklife Festival - The 40th Annual Smithsonian Folklife Festival (June 30 -July 4 and July 7-11) is co-sponsored by the National Park Service and continues its run on the National Mall from 11:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. between 7th and 14th Streets. Evening performances are from 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. This year's festival celebrated events to be announced. For additional information, call 202-357-2700. All events are FREE.

America's 2006 Independence Day Parade - Constitution Ave. between 7th to 17th Streets, NW. The parade on July 4 at 11:45 a.m. celebrates the 230th birthday of the

United States of America. More than 3000 performers, dancers, cultural organizations, giant balloons, floats, and military personnel from thirteen States will march down Constitution Avenue from 7th to 17th streets. The parade is estimated to last approximately 2 hours. The parade is free and open to the public. Contact: 202-619-7222.

Kenilworth Park and Aquatic Gardens, DC

Garden tours - Anacostia Ave. & Douglas Street NE. It's that time of the year, Every 3rd Saturday of July visitors are invited to enjoy more than 75 varieties of blooming lilies and lotus in a park setting that is of outstanding design and beauty. Night tours of the gardens will also be held during the months of August and September. Visitors are encouraged to bring a flashlight and insect repellent. Entertainment will be provided for the children. Mini-workshops will also be available on water gardening, nature videos and tours of the greenhouses. A photography contest will be held based on photos taken of the scenery at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens. Submit original photographs only. Please call for details. For further information call 202-426-6905.



Korean War Veterans Memorial

Korean War Veterans Memorial, DC

Korean War Armistice Day Ceremony - (July 27 at 10 a.m.) This year marks the 56th Anniversary of the Korean War. On June 25, 1950, the North Korean Army-organized, equipped, and abetted by the Soviet Union-lunged across the 38th Parallel to subdue its countrymen to the south. This year also marks the 53rd Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice, and 9th Anniversary of the dedication of the Korean War Veterans Memorial. Armistice Day will be observed on the same day and time the cease fire took effect in Korea in July 27, 1953. A formal wreath-laying ceremony will take place. Contact: 202-619-7222.

Arlington House, VA

Open House - Reservations are required for the Annual Open House at Arlington House and can be made by calling 703-235-1530. Date and time to be announced.

Columbus Memorial Statue, DC

Anniversary celebration - Columbus Plaza, Union Station. This year we celebrate the 94th Anniversary of the dedication of the Columbus Memorial Statue. The monumental

statue was dedicated June 8, 1912. The National Columbus Celebration Association and the National Park Service invite you to participate in the Columbus Day Ceremony. The official national ceremony celebrates the achievements of the great explorer. Columbus Day is always celebrated the 2nd Monday in October (this year it's October 9 at 11 a.m.) For information call 202-619-7222.

National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, DC

15th Anniversary of Memorial - E Street, between 4th and 5th Sts. NW. The NPS will honor Law Enforcement officers with a wreath-laying ceremony and commemorate the 14th anniversary of the dedication of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial on October 15 at 1 p.m. Free. For further information call 202-737-3400.

Vietnam Women's Memorial, Washington, DC

Vietnam: In Their Own Words - This year marks the 13th anniversary of the Vietnam Women's Memorial. Come and witness Vietnam: In Their Own Words-Throughout the day (November 11, 8 a.m. to noon and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.) storytelling will be featured every 10-15 minutes near the Vietnam Women's Memorial, located at 23rd and Constitution Ave. NW. Children and families will find the stories compelling and educational. For further information call 301-314-8505 or visit www.VietnamWomensMemorial.org.

Northeast Region



Adams NHP

Adams National Historical Park, MA

Treasures of Penn's Hill, June 17, 2006, 3:00 p.m. - Join Abigail Adams in retracing the June 17th walk Abigail and John Quincy Adams took from their home to the top of Penn's Hill to view the smoke from the Battle of Bunker Hill! Learn about the history surrounding the event! View the commemorative monument! Tour the Penn's Hill garden of herbalist Iris Weaver and view a demonstration of dyeing fabric with plants from her garden! Meet at the Adams' birthplaces, 133 Franklin St. (intersection with Independence Ave.). We will walk up a steep hill on this tour. Participants who do not wish to walk up the hill may drive to the top.

For more information call (617) 472-0799.

Father's Day at the Park, June 18, 2006 - What better way to spend Father's Day than touring the Adams National Historical Park? Dads will have free admission to the park this day.

Continental Congress, July 4, 2006, 12 noon and 3:00 pm – Reenact the Second Continental Congress and the signing of the Declaration of Independence. You will assume the role of a delegate and debate various issues leading up to the vote for Independence. This is a family friendly event and a great way to learn about why we celebrate the Fourth of July! Meet at the Adams Carriage House, Melissa Burnham, (617) 770-1175. The Carriage House is located on the grounds of the Old House at 135 Adams Street.

Jefferson and Adams, A Stage Play, July 4, 2006, 7:00 pm - A moving and powerful dramatization of the remarkable friendship between two presidents of the United States- with the forthright Mrs. Adams always playing a major role. In a fast-paced series of encounters, we see the turbulent relationship between Thomas Jefferson (Colonial Williamsburg interpreter Bill Barker) and John Adams (veteran actor Sam Goodyear) as their friendship ignites, flourishes, ruptures, and resolves itself. The perceptive Abigail Adams (Colonial Williamsburg interpreter Abigail Schumann) acts as a catalyst and motivator while steadfastly maintaining her own beliefs. The play spans 50 years of their friendship, beginning in the early days of the republic, extending through two wars with England, and continuing through their vigorous retirement. They continually clashed over foreign entanglements, domestic politics, and the proper role of the federal government. This event is free and open to the public. It will take place on the grounds of the Beale Estate under a tent. Beale Estate, 181 Adams Street
Melissa Burnham, (617) 770-1175.

Allegheny Portage Railroad National Historic Site, PA

Evening on the Summit 2006:

June 24, 2006 - August 12, 2006

June 24 - ***Pennsylvania Game Commission "Pennsylvania's Wild Side"***

July 1 - Ranger Doug Richardson ***"Andrew Carnegie and Henry Clay Frick"***

July 8 - Bruce Young ***"Pennsylvania Mountain Voices"***

July 15 - Ranger James Tomasek ***"What Happened after 1754"***

July 22 - Men of Steel ***"Tales and Tunes of the Allegheny Ridge"***

July 29 - Dr. Martin Rice ***"Enjoying the Night Sky"***

August 5 - Tim Daubs ***"Pennsylvania Highways and Byways"***

August 12 - Johnstown Reader's Theater ***"The Johnstown Flood"***

Call the park at 814-886-6150 for more information.

Access Staple Bend Tunnel Tour - June 25, 2006, Heritage Hike: Ranger guided tour of Staple Bend Tunnel. This four mile round trip will be over the original railroad trace of the Allegheny Portage Railroad which operated from 1834-1854. Visitors will also have the opportunity to enter Staple Bend Tunnel the oldest railroad tunnel in America.

The Ghosts of Staple Bend Tunnel - October 28, 2006, The Allegheny Portage Railroad National Historic Site invites the public to a night of ghost stories. Take a trolley ride back to the Staple Bend Tunnel and listen to the stories of the Portage Railroad as told by ghosts. The event is free to the public but reservations are required. Call 814-886-6150 to make a reservation. Only 27 people per tour. Tours are at 6, 7, 8, and 9 pm Saturday October 28, 2006. Make your reservation early.

Eisenhower National Historic Site, PA

Hike with Ike, June 15, 2006 - August 10, 2006 - Join a National Park Ranger for a walk through downtown Gettysburg to learn more about the Eisenhowers' life in this community. Thursday evenings, 7:15 p.m. Meet at the Gettysburg College gates at the corner of North Washington and Water Streets. Free.

Fifties Weekend, June 17, 2006 - June 18, 2006 - Revisit the popular culture of the 1950s. See Detroit's finest 1950s cars, Rock and Roll, the Hula-Hoop and more. Ranger programs and guest speaker on the issues of the day. Included in site admission.

WWII Weekend, September 16, 2006 - September 17, 2006 - A living history encampment at the Eisenhower National Historic Site. Featuring Allied soldiers, a German camp, and World War II vintage jeeps, trucks and tanks. Saturday, 9-5; Sunday, 9-4.

Fort Necessity National Battlefield, PA

Memorial Program, July 03, 2006 - **This** twilight ceremony commemorates the anniversary of the surrender of Fort Necessity.

Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park, VA

11th Annual Grand Illumination in Fredericksburg National Cemetery, May 27, 2006 - 15,300 candles light the Fredericksburg National Cemetery, one for each soldier buried in the cemetery.



Independence NHP

Independence National Historical Park, PA

Looking through Franklin's Eyes – This year Philadelphia celebrates Franklin's 300th Birthday and Independence and the events include offerings from both the park and our

partners. The Park used the changing exhibits gallery of the NPS exhibit space in the Independence Visitor Center for a temporary exhibit. This exhibit gives visitors an overview of park sites related to Franklin's life and extraordinary accomplishments. A new self guided walking tour brochure guides visitors to the sites mentioned in the exhibit. The American Philosophical Society's exhibit runs from April 17 through December 31.

Armonica Concerts – Benjamin Franklin's achievements included the invention of a new musical instrument, the glass armonica. On May 21, 2006 Dennis James, a professional musician, will give two armonica concerts.
Contact: National Park Service, 215-965-2305.

The Princess and the Patriot -Ekaterina Dashkova, Benjamin Franklin, and the Age of Enlightenment, a 2006 exhibition at the Museum of the American Philosophical Society in Philosophical Hall, visitors will be introduced to these two fascinating personalities. Portraits, memoirs, letters, maps, court attire, jewelry and other decorative arts—many items never seen before in this country—will be on view. They will document the extraordinary lives of America's favorite founding father and the outrageous Russian princess who spoke five languages, helped overthrow a czar and directed the most prestigious scientific organization in her country. Contact: American Philosophical Society, 215-440-3400.

Breakfast with Ben - Thanks to the Independence Visitor Center Corporation, families can now enjoy a special breakfast with Philadelphia's most popular founding father, Benjamin Franklin. Breakfast with Ben includes a meet-and-greet session with Ben, where children can talk to the man himself, ask their own questions, and even pose for photos with him!
In addition, they will learn about Franklin's many achievements and inventions, from swim fins to bifocals. Each guest will receive a goodie bag of souvenir items to commemorate the special event. Reservations are recommended (\$12 for kids; \$19 for adults). Contact: Independence Visitor Center, 1-800-537-7676.

Learning Through Archaeology – The Park's educational branch, the Independence Park Institute, introduces a new curriculum this spring. *Learning Through Archaeology* features hands on participation by students using reproduction of park artifacts, historical documents, maps and portraits. Teachers receive standards based guide with pre-visit and post-visit lesson plans. Contact: Independence Park Institute, 215-597-2760.

Exhibit – In cooperation with the Northeast Region and a park partner, the Park will offer a temporary exhibit in September to commemorate the 225th Anniversary of the Washington Rochambeau march from Rhode Island to Yorktown.

Two new tours – Our Park partner, Once Upon A Nation, will offer two new tours in the summer of 2006. *Where's the Declaration?* Designed for children this tour leads young visitors on a scavenger hunt through the Park. Costumed tour guides, assisted by their puppet friends, help the children follow the clues. *Philadelphia to Valley Forge*. This five hour long tour will allow visitors to recreate the experience of Lydia Darragh as she

courageously went through enemy lines to deliver information to George Washington.
Contact: Once Upon A Nation tours, 215-629-5801 ext. 206.



Morristown NHP

Morristown National Historical Park, NJ

A Farmer's Viewpoint – (May 14) Step back in time to 1780 and meet a farmer at the Wick House. Hear the views of a local civilian concerning Washington's army after their long stay in Morristown. Ask him about the latest news and his opinion of the war.

Weaving - (May 27) Visit the Wick House to learn how different looms produced the variety of cloth used by families in the 18th century.

The Council of War and the French Alliance - (June 4) Our French allies are sending soldiers and ships! How should we use them? Become a general in the Continental Army and assist in the planning of the campaign for the summer of 1780. Learn about the status of the war and how the French assisted the American cause. This program will be part of the hourly guided-tours of the Ford Mansion.

Yesterday's Games - (June 4) Step back in time to the Revolutionary period when toys were made of wood, cloth, and yarn. Bring a parent or friend to the Wick Farm and learn to play such games as Fox & Geese, Nine Men Morris, Battledore & Shuttlecock and Quoits.

Soldier Life – (July 2) Learn about the life of a common soldier from a costumed ranger at our replica soldier huts. Jockey Hollow Pennsylvania Line Soldier Huts.

Warm-Up for the Declaration – (July 4) Stories, riddles, jokes and an inspection of the troops are just part of the warm-up activities prior to our reading of the Declaration of Independence. Join in the fun as a costumed park ranger entertains the crowd and gives a "kids level" explanation of the Declaration. Ford Mansion Grounds.

Public Reading of the Declaration of Independence - (July 4) Celebrate the Fourth of July the way our ancestors did, with a public reading of the Declaration of Independence. Cheer along with costumed park rangers as they denounce tyranny and praise liberty! Ford Mansion Grounds.

Revolutionary War Encampment: Joseph Plumb Martin Challenge - (May 6 & 7) Join members of the Second New Jersey Regiment, Helms' Company and other invited reenactment groups encamped at Jockey Hollow. The reenactors will participate in the *Joseph Plumb Martin Challenge* which will feature military life competitions with regiments competing in activities such as exercises from the *Manual of Arms*, musket firing, and setting up tents. 10 AM - 5 PM. Jockey Hollow.

Petersburg National Battlefield, VA

Caravan Tours -Ranger staff from Petersburg National Battlefield will lead caravan tours which will enable visitors to tour the battlefield in the comfort of their own vehicle. Tours will include interpretive talks at various stops such as the Crater, Fort Stedman, Poplar Grove National Cemetery, and other sites where significant events took place. Tours will take place from mid-June through mid-August. Further information regarding times will be listed on the park's web site, www.nps.gov/pete in early June. Contact: 804-732-3531, ext. 203.

Civil War Petersburg - Partnership Programs between the City of Petersburg and the National Park Service -Blandford Cemetery: Where else better to explain the toll of war than a cemetery that includes the graves of over 30,000 Civil War soldiers. Historic Blandford Church and Cemetery will be the setting of a number of summer programs which will honor both soldiers and civilians who had to endure the tragedies of war. Contact: Elizabeth Dinger-Glisan, at 804- 732-3531 ext. 217.

Siege Museum: A number of programs will depart from Petersburg's Siege Museum at 15 West Bank Street. Programs will include various walking tours of Old Town Petersburg focusing on the Battle of Old Men and Young Boys as well as civilian life within the City during the Siege of Petersburg. Contact: Ann Blumenschine, 804-732-3531 ext. 203.

Roosevelt-Vanderbilt National Historic Site, NY

60th anniversary of the Dedication of the Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt as a National Historic Site - A special program will be held on April 7 at 6:30pm to celebrate the occasion.

The American Presidential Community: Engaging the Power of Presidential Connections To Place, Community and the Future" – A conference sponsored by The National Park Service, National Archives, and American Association of State and Local History. To take place at the Roosevelt sites and Wallace Center, June 19-22. Registration information is available at www.aaslh.org. Contact: Carol Kohan, Deputy Superintendent, 845-229-9115.

Hyde Park Healthy Trails "Walkabout" 2006 - Kick-off event April 22, 10:00am at the Vanderbilt Overlook. "Walkabout" is a project to promote healthy physical activity on Hyde Park Trails, including National Parks, town parks and nonprofit nature preserves. Participants who complete at least 5 of 8 selected trails will receive a free "Walkabout 2006" patch. Sponsored by the Hyde Park Trail Committee. April 22 activities will include Ranger-led walks on the Vanderbilt grounds, a free Nordic Walking clinic, and walks on other Hyde Park trails. Additional 2006 events TBA. Contact Karl Beard, 845-229-9115 x34.

Salem Maritime National Historic Site, MA

Salem Maritime Festival – (Aug. 5-6) Two days of nautical crafts, exhibits, music and food on the historic Salem waterfront on Derby St. Family friendly fun. Free tours of the Salem Maritime's sailing ship FRIENDSHIP, plus free sail and cargo handling demonstrations. Contact Martin Fucio, 978-740-1659.

Trails & Sails: A Weekend of Walks and Water. – (Sept. 23-24) Salem Maritime offers free tours as part of this celebration of over 100 events throughout the Essex National Heritage Area. Contact: Martin Fucio, 978-740-1659.



Boston Harbor Islands NRA

Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area, MA

Two new high speed ferries - Harbor Express will cut in half the travel time from downtown Boston and double the amount of time to spend on the islands. In addition to camping and hiking on four of the islands, the park will feature special Citizen Science tours that will focus on the park's unique flora and fauna. Weekly programs will offer the opportunity to learn sea-kayaking, enjoy performances by the Boston Children's Theatre, and learn about the park through Family Fun Days. Guided tours to Boston Lighthouse on Little Brewster Island continue and groups can combine this tour with a visit to the Hull Lifesaving Museum. As the summer winds down the Islands will host the second annual Boston Harbor Islands Sailing Regatta on September 30th. Contacts: Kelly Fellner, 617-223-8668 or Larissa Fawcner, 617-223-8636.

Colonial National Historical Park, VA

225th Anniversary of the Victory at Yorktown - The 225th anniversary of America's decisive Revolutionary War victory at Yorktown will be celebrated October 19-22 with four days of festivities and "A Salute to the Military." Events including re-enactments, parades, patriotic ceremonies, hands-on activities, live performances, tall ship displays and fireworks will take place at the Yorktown National Battlefield, Riverwalk Landing and the Yorktown Victory Center. Contact: Mike Litterst, 757-898-2409.

Pacific West Region

Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, HI

26th Annual Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park Cultural Festival -Celebrate Hawai'i's unique cultural heritage at the 26th Annual Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park Cultural Festival! The free festival will be held on Saturday, July 15th, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the park's Kahuku unit in Ka'u. Enjoy hula and Hawaiian music. Learn Hawaiian arts and crafts. Make a lei, feather kahili, and lauhala bracelet. Taste Hawaiian foods and play traditional games and musical instruments. Be sure to bring water, sunscreen, a groundmat and rainjacket. This will be the 26th year that the park festival has brought together kupuna (elder), keiki (child), kama'aina (resident), and malihini (newcomer) for

a day of fun and sharing. Come, join in the celebration as we *e ho`omau i ka po`ohala*, carry on the virtues, arts, and skills of the family.



Yosemite NP

Yosemite National Park, CA

Olmsted Point Dedication - September 13, 2006, Yosemite National Park and the Yosemite Fund celebrate the completion of the Olmsted Point project on the Tioga Road. The work included a total rehabilitation of this spectacular overlook with new retaining walls, refurbished viewing areas, and new interpretive wayside exhibits. This is the second major partnership project between the park and the Yosemite Fund, with the first being the Lower Yosemite Fall Project. Contact: Scott Gediman, 209-372-0248.

Lake Mead National Recreation Area, NV

Boating Safety Day - March 20, 2006, Lake Mead National Recreation Area is holding a Boating Safety Day at the Special Events Beach at Lake Mead on Saturday, March 20. Boating Safety classes will be held in our new Water Safety Center and will include a hands-on portion on the water. The states of CA, NV, AZ, the PWC Industry Association, concessioners, the US Coast Guard Auxiliary, the Sail and Power Squadron, and many other partners.

Southeast Region

Andersonville National Historic Site, GA

Memorial Day Commemorations At Andersonville May 27, 2006 - May 29, 2006, Joan Stibitz, 229-924-0343, Alan Marsh, 229-924-0343 - Placement of individual American flags in the National Cemetery, Saturday, May 27th, beginning at 8:30. Youth Groups interested in participating should contact the park. Memorial Motorcycle Ride sponsored by the US Military Veterans Motorcycle Club, Saturday May 27th, 1pm arrival at site. Ride begins at Jughead Cycles, Byron, GA. For more info contact Jughead Cycles at 478-956-4777. The National Park Service will conduct the annual Memorial Day Memorial Service on Sunday, May 28th at 2 pm, including speakers and presentation of wreaths. A short band concert of patriotic music will precede the ceremony, beginning at 1:30 pm. Memorial Day Mass, National Cemetery, Monday, May 29th at 11 am.

Memorial Luminary, November 11, 2006 - Plans are underway to present a Luminary at the historic prison site on November 11, 2006. Candles will be placed within the prison site honoring the nearly 13,000 Union Soldiers who died at Andersonville. Confederate soldiers who died on duty as guards will also be honored. Program times will be announced at a later date.

Volunteers are needed to assist with this program. Youth groups, Civic groups and individuals are invited to help. Please contact the park at 229-924-0343, extension 201 for information on volunteering.

Arkansas Post National Memorial, AR

4th of July Cannon Demonstration, July 4, 2006 - Celebrate the fourth with a bang! An opportunity to experience a part of colonial history. Two 30 minute demonstrations will introduce visitors to the type of cannon used in our nation's struggle for independence. 12 p.m. and 2 p.m.

Civil War Encampment, September 09, 2006 - September 10, 2006 - Commemorate the Battle of Arkansas Post during the park's annual Civil War Encampment, Union and Confederate soldiers will camp at the park and display the arms and equipment used during the Civil War. This years encampment will present both the Union and Confederate sides of the story of the Battle of Arkansas Post.

Kings Mountain National Military Park, SC

Military Through the Ages, May 28-29 - Military through the ages will have soldiers representing each of the nation's conflicts discuss their weaponry and equipment.

Guilford Courthouse National Military Park, NC

Living History Weekend, May 27, 2006 - 18th century military and civilian life demonstrations performed by the Guilford Militia. Tour Stop 6.

Bird Walk, June 24, 2006 - Join members of the Piedmont Bird Club for a guided walk and discover some of the feathered friends in the park. Tour Stop 5.



Mammoth Cave National Park, KY

“Wonders of America”, May 27 - The US Post Office will issue a sheet of 40 stamps called “Wonders of America”. One of the stamps will commemorate the park. A

ceremony will be held from 9-10 a.m. and there will be a first day cancellation station set up underground in the cave.

Natchez Trace Parkway, MS

Pioneer Day at the Natchez Trace Parkway, June 3, 2006 - The Tombigbee Pioneer Group will perform living history demonstrations at the Natchez Trace Parkway's Tupelo Visitor Center (located at Milepost 266), from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 3, 2006. The public is invited to watch pioneer lifestyle activities that will include corn shuck doll making, basket weaving, beading, and quill pen demonstrations. A longhunters' program will be presented involving early medicines. Leatherworking and mountain dulcimer demonstrations will also be offered throughout the day. Children are invited to participate by dressing up in pioneer clothes and trying these activities firsthand. This program is free to the public. For additional information, please call the Parkway Visitor Center at: 662-680-4027 or 1-800-305-7417.

National Park Service

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Office of Public Affairs



Gettysburg Museum and Visitor Center



C.A. Thayer



Painted Desert Inn



C.A. Thayer Restoration

New and Rehabilitated Facilities Opening in 2006 - 2009

National Park Service

New and Rehabilitated Facilities

Opened in 2005

Nez Perce National Historical Park, Idaho

New visitor facility -- A newly rehabilitated facility opened in June 2005 at the park's Canoe Camp site on U.S. Highway 12 in Orofino. The site offers expanded visitor parking, restrooms, pedestrian trails, and maintenance storage. Contact: Scott Eckberg, 208-843-7051.

Arches National Park, Utah

New visitor center – A new 18,000-square-foot visitor opened September 2005 featuring “Secrets of Red Rock,” a Discovery Communications film, which highlights Arches and Canyonlands National Parks, and exhibits exploring the natural and cultural history of the park. Innovative interactive kiosks identify many plant and animal species found in the park, and help visitors search for arches by name, location, size, discoverer's name and more. The new facility also includes a 150-seat theater, an outdoor plaza with exhibits and bronze wildlife sculptures, restrooms which are available 24 hours a day, a large cooperating association sales area, and office space; the old building wing is used for additional offices. Contact: Diane Allen, 435-719-2240.

Lewis and Clark National Historical Park,. near Astoria, Oregon

Reconstructed Lewis & Clark fort - The newest replica of Fort Clatsop reopened to the public this spring. Originally reconstructed in the 1950s the Fort burned to the ground in October 2006. A favorite of visitors to the Lewis and Clark National Historical Park near Astoria, Or., the Fort is a replica similar to that constructed by the Corps of Discovery when they wintered in the area before starting their trip back to Missouri.

Mount Rainier National Park, Washington

Guidehouse at Paradise – the newly rehabilitated historic Guidehouse at Paradise reopened to the public last summer. The structure was originally constructed in the late 1920s for guide services on Mount Rainier. The first floor of the structure (2,400 square feet) is open to the public for interpreting the history of climbing on Mount Rainier, along with contemporary information/interpretation regarding climbing, and service desk/office for climbing permits. Contact: Donna Rahier, 360-595-2211.

Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve

Re-opened Visitor Center – The newly remodeled and expanded visitor center re-opened to the public in October 2005. The center features an expanded and updated exhibit area along with an entirely new auditorium and education room, museum storage facility, 1st aid room, and staff workspace. Contact: Carol E. Sperling, 719-378-6341.

Padre Island National Seashore, Texas

Malaquite Beach Campground -- Forty-two campsites have been updated, 20 Shade structures and picnic tables have been built and installed, and parking sites have been delineated. The centrally located bathroom received a new roof, lights, and paint.

Bird Island Basin Boat Ramp, Primitive Camping area, RV Parking area --The new design separates the windsurfing and boat-launching areas and reopens a former road to the ramp. Fishermen will no longer have to pass through the windsurfing camping area in order to launch their boats. Parking in the boat-launching area increased by thirty-two spaces, each accommodates one vehicle and one boat trailer. Camping facilities in the southern end of Bird Island Basin have been expanded to accommodate a maximum of forty-five recreational vehicles and twenty-five single vehicles. A day-use area will be established between the windsurfing areas and boat-launching ramp.

2006

Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, Hawaii

Renovation of the Kilauea Visitor Center - On Monday, April 25, 2005, park staff, Hawaiian elders, scientists and others gathered to celebrate the reopening of the Kilauea Visitor Center, the number one visitor center attraction on the island of Hawai'i. Located near the park entrance, the center is typically the first stop for the 2.6 million people who visit Kilauea Volcano. The park revamped the center to give the public a better overview of the park's environmental, historical, and cultural features.

The visitor center's interior was renovated and all new exhibits installed. Professionally fabricated on the mainland, the exhibits' design and content reflect consultations with Hawaiians and the islands' leading biologists, ornithologists, entomologists, botanists, and volcanologists. There are exhibits on island formation; the arrival of life by wing, wind, and wave; ecosystems from sea to summit; the sights and sounds of the rain forest; invasive species; and those who make a difference in resource protection. Interwoven throughout are the mana'o (wisdom) and mo'olelo (stories) of Hawai'i's indigenous people.

The event also marked the reopening of the renovated Hawai'i Natural History Association bookstore that offers for sale an extensive array of educational materials related to Hawai'i's natural and cultural history. The non-profit cooperating association supports the park's mission and programs. Partnering with our oldest cooperator, the Hawaii Natural History Association provided funding to the renovation, allowing us to leverage federal funds (user fees) and negotiate with contractors, resulting in a savings of \$500,000. The project is a proud testament to collaboration, partnering and creative innovation. Contact: Mardie Lane, 808- 985-6018.

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Park, California

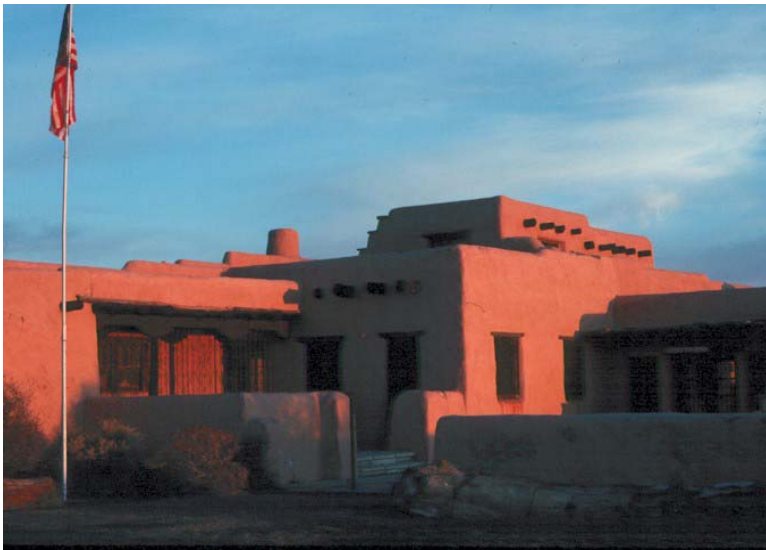
Grand Opening and Re-dedication of the Kings Canyon Visitor Center --The National Park Service rededicated the Kings Canyon Visitor Center on April 27, 2006. Formerly known as the Grant Grove Visitor Center, this facility went through a major redesign and

renovation over the past four years. New exhibits, all of which are in both English and Spanish, tell the story of what makes Kings Canyon National Park a national treasure. Contact, Alexandra Picavet, 559-565-3131.

Colonial National Historical Park, Virginia

Archaearium - The Archaearium is an innovative new exhibition facility that opened at the Historic Jamestown unit on May 13, 2006, the 399th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown. Showcasing the artifacts and findings of the world-renowned Jamestown Rediscovery archaeological project, the Archaearium includes 7,500 square feet of innovative and interactive exhibit areas. Also inside this unique glass structure visitors can see excavated areas of Jamestown's last Statehouse, and view re-created 17th-century landscapes.

Petrified Forest National Park, Arizona



Painted Desert Inn

Painted Desert Inn - After more than a year of rehab work, the Inn has reopened to the public as a museum and bookstore in early 2006. It was Designated a National Historic Landmark for its Pueblo Revival architecture, the work of the Civilian Conservation Corps, and interior wall murals by Hopi artist Fred Kabotie.

Rainbow Forest Museum and Visitor Center - Undergoing some much needed changes. An enclosed theatre has already been constructed to show the park film, *Timeless Impressions* and exhibits are being upgraded and will offer all audiences a glimpse into the Triassic world.

A new wayside - Under construction that will help visitors understand the significance of the Mother Road. Petrified Forest National Park is proud to be the only national park to protect a section of Historic Route 66.

The Painted Desert Visitor Center plaza - is also getting a "face-lift" with cracked concrete being replaced and new wayside exhibits in the works. Contact: Marge Post, 928-524-6228 ext. 264.

Saratoga National Historical Park, New York

Revolutionary War Timeline Exhibit, a new 8' by 10' Fiber Optic Map and rehabilitated multi-purpose education room will open in early summer of 2006, completing a \$300,000 rehabilitation to improve accessibility and educational offerings in the park's visitor center. The timeline illustrates America's War for Independence with original park artifacts, soldiers' journal entries, and dozens of period images. The fiber optic map uses 6,000 lights, illustrating the 1777 British invasion into New York and Vermont, and battle action on the fields of Saratoga, as described in an accompanying 15-minute narration. The rehabilitated multi-purpose room will feature changing seasonal exhibits and function as additional classroom and meeting space. Contact: Gina Johnson, 518-664-9821 ext. 227.

New Revolutionary War Exhibits: In May 2006, the park will unveil a new timeline exhibit outlining America's War for Independence with original park artifacts, soldiers' journal entries, and dozens of period images. The timeline will compliment the recently installed (September 05) fiber optic map that features 6,000 lights and narration to relay the 1777 British invasion into the Champlain/Hudson corridor and battle action on the fields of Saratoga - plus a newly renovated multi-purpose room that showcases temporary exhibits and serves as additional classroom and meeting space. The upgrades were made possible by a \$300,000 rehabilitation project to improve accessibility and educational offerings in the park's visitor center. Contact: Gina Johnson, 518-664-9821 ext. 227.

Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, Washington

Visitor Center Grand Opening. The new visitor center will hold a grand opening in late June, 2006 when the new visitor center exhibits are completed and installed. The new interactive exhibits will highlight the role Seattle played in the gold rush while allowing visitors to make personal connections through the stories of actual gold rush stampedeers. Contact: Klondike Gold Rush NHP, 206-220-4232.



Edison NHS

Edison National Historic Site, New Jersey

Grand Reopening of Thomas Edison's home and laboratory, is scheduled for June 2006. For more than forty years, the laboratory created by Thomas Alva Edison in West Orange, New Jersey, had enormous impact on the lives of millions of people worldwide. Out of the West Orange laboratories came the motion picture camera, vastly improved phonographs, sound recordings, silent and sound movies and the nickel-iron alkaline electric storage battery.

Badlands National Park, South Dakota

Dedication of the White River Visitor Center will take place in July 2006. The National Park Service has spent more than a year in rehabilitation of Badlands National Park's main visitor center. In 2006, visitors will find new exhibits, a 100 seat indoor theater, enlarged restrooms, an improved bookstore, and increased parking.



C.A. Thayer

San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park, California

Reconstruction of the C. A. Thayer. The *C.A. Thayer* reconstruction is nearing completion and the ship will be back to dock in the summer of 2006, but will need final touches at Hyde Street Pier before reopening for public tours. Once, hundreds of sailing schooners carried lumber to San Francisco from Washington, Oregon, and the California Redwood Coast. Built in 1895, *C.A. Thayer* was once part of that mighty Pacific Coast fleet. Today, she is a rare survivor from the days when strong canvas sails billowed over tall deckloads of freshly-milled fir and redwood.

Manassas National Battlefield Park, Virginia

The Brawner Farm rehabilitation will be completed in late summer 2006. This project for rehabilitating the historic house at Brawner Farm will improve the condition of the structure and to provide for enhanced interpretation of the Second Battle of Manassas. The work provides for the stabilization of the existing house and its rehabilitation for adaptive use as an interpretive facility. In addition, the proposal includes construction of an entrance road, parking lot, and accessible trail to enhance public access to the house and grounds.

Pu'ukohola Heiau National Historic Site, Hawaii

The **new visitor center** will be completed in the summer of 2006. The founding of the Hawaiian kingdom can be directly associated with one structure in the Hawaiian Islands: Pu'ukohola Heiau. The temple was constructed to incur the favor of the war god Kuka'ilimoku. It was built between 1790-91 by Kamehameha I.

Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Indiana

"Celebrating 40 years of Dunes Stewardship 1966 - 2006" - The Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, in partnership with the Porter County Convention, Recreation and Visitor

Commission, will open a **new visitor center** in the fall of 2006. This joint visitor center is being built by the County and will feature a shared visitor information area, auditorium, and space leased to the park for exhibits and a bookstore operation. The center will increase the number of visitor center contacts from 60,000 to an estimated 252,000 per year.

Shenandoah National Park, Virginia

New exhibits - During the fall of 2006, Shenandoah National Park will introduce new exhibits at the Byrd Visitor Center located at milepost 51 along Skyline Drive. The highly interactive exhibits will tell the stories of Shenandoah's establishment and development including the controversial acquisition of privately owned land, the thousands of hours of work done by boys of the depression-era Civilian Conservation Corps, and the little known story of desegregation in the park in the 1930s and 40s. As each decade has unfolded, Shenandoah's landscape has changed in reflection of America's values-this new exhibit chronicles those changes and seeks to involve the visitor in the Shenandoah of the coming century. Contact: Karen Beck-Herzog, 540-999-3300.

Yosemite National Park, California

Olmsted Point Dedication – On September 13, 2006, Yosemite National Park and the Yosemite Fund will celebrate the completion of the Olmsted Point project on the Tioga Road. The work will include a total rehabilitation of this spectacular overlook with new retaining walls, refurbished viewing areas, and new interpretive wayside exhibits. This is the second major partnership project between the park and the Yosemite Fund, with the first being the Lower Yosemite Fall Project.

George Washington Carver National Monument, Missouri

The **new addition and remodeling of the George Washington Carver visitor center** will be dedicated during the 2nd week of October, 2006. The new facilities will provide interactive science and history discovery exhibit areas, an audiovisual theatre, collections storage and curatorial work space.

2006

Glen Canyon National Recreation Area

New Visitor Contact Station – Wahweap, the area's most popular access point to Lake Powell, is now home to a new visitor contact station opened May 25, 2006. Operated in cooperation with the Glen Canyon Natural History Association, the visitor contact station offers free information about visiting Glen Canyon and Lake Powell and the surrounding public lands. The station features exhibits and information on paleontology, the ecology of the Colorado Plateau and boating safety, among other things. The GCNH Association also operates a bookstore at the site. Contact: Kevin Schneider, 928-608-6208.

Grand Canyon National Park, Arizona

Albright Training Center -- The training center was re-opened in March 2006 after an extensive renovation that included many improvements for accessibility, health and safety, energy efficiency, and teaching capability. The facility is available for both the National Park Service and the public to use for training, special events and more. Contact: Costa Dillon, 202-354-1968.

2007

Homestead National Monument of America, Nebraska

The **grand opening of the new heritage center** is set to coincide with the 145th anniversary of homesteading on May 20, 2007. Agriculture Secretary Johannes may be attending this event. The new Homestead Heritage Center will share with the public the national aspects of the Homestead Act of 1862 and its effects on the people, land, and world. The center will be a 10,600 square foot facility housing a museum and a curatorial storage area. It will also serve as repository for the Homestead Land-Entry Case files. This distinctive, two story building will provide a visual connection to natural and cultural resources found on the Freeman Homestead Claim.

Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, Michigan

Raspberry Island lighthouse - the most heavily visited of the 8 lighthouses in the park - will remain closed throughout 2006 as a major historic renovation project continues.

A new ban on importing firewood into the park is anticipated for 2006, as park staff gear up for defending the ash trees of the islands against the emerald ash borer. This insect pest has decimated ash trees in the areas it has infected. On the planning front, public meetings will be held as alternatives begin to take shape during the development of a new general management plan for the park. Contact: Jim Nepstad, 715-779-3398 ext. 102.

Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming

Grand Teton National Park expects to complete construction of the park's **new Visitor and Discovery Center** in summer 2007. The dedication event will likely be scheduled for August 2007. The project is a public- private partnership. The Congress through Senator Carig Thomas' leadership, appropriated \$ 8 million towards construction; the Grand Teton National Park Foundation, the park's primary partner organization, is raising \$ 8.5 million in private funds and the Grand Teton Natural History Association, the park's Cooperating Association, is contributing \$ 1.5 million towards the project from their in park book sales revenues.

Frederick Douglass National Historic Site, Washington, DC

In FY04, an appropriation of \$955,000 in line item construction funds was received. This, combined with anticipated funding from the repair/rehab, cyclic maintenance, cultural cyclic, and fee demo programs, will enable the most serious backlog projects to be

completed. Frederick Douglass Home will be closed to tours beginning on Monday, April 24, 2006. Anticipated reopening is scheduled for early 2007.

Monocacy National Battlefield, Maryland

The **new Visitor Center** at Monocacy National Battlefield is scheduled for completion in April or May 2007.

Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts, Virginia

The **Main Gate Project** is scheduled to be completed in the early Spring of 2007. This is a \$3,000,000.00 line item construction project. We will be coordinating with the Wolf Trap Foundation for any ceremony to celebrate its completion.

Cumberland Island National Seashore, Georgia

The **Rehabilitate Plum Orchard Mansion** project will be completed in August 2007, at a cost of \$ 2.1 million in public funds. The rehabilitated mansion will be opened for public tours.

Grand Portage National Monument, Minnesota

The **new Grand Portage Heritage Center** is set for completion in August/September 2007. The monument's 710 acres lie entirely within the boundaries of Grand Portage Ojibwe Indian Reservation. The reconstructed depot (originally built in the early 1800's) celebrates fur trade and Ojibwe lifeways.

Central High School National Historic Site, Arkansas

The **new visitor center at Central High School** will be completed in September 2007 during the 50th anniversary of the historic events that took place there in 1957. The new facility will provide significantly expanded space for interpretive and educational programming, special events, the storage and preservation of historic archives and museum objects. The new Visitor Center will have about 3,000 sq. ft. of exhibit space to accommodate the high increase in visitation and adequate exhibit space to interpret more of the stories related to the 1957 desegregation crisis and civil rights.

Blue Ridge Parkway, North Carolina

The new **Regional Destination Visitor Center** will be completed and dedicated in September 2007. Cost of construction was \$6.9 million in public funds.

Carlsbad Caverns National Park, New Mexico

The project is rehabilitating the existing 1950's vintage **Visitor Center** to an efficient attractive facility that takes advantage of its unique location and reduces impacts to the park's primary resource. While all of the buildings systems are beyond their useful life, the proposed solution uses nearly all the existing structure and shell. Completion is scheduled for December 2007 at a cost of \$ 7.7 million.

2008

Gettysburg National Military Park, Pennsylvania

The **new museum/visitor center for Gettysburg National Military Park** is currently scheduled to come on-line in the spring of 2008. This 139,000 square foot facility will contain a new park visitor center, a 24,000 square feet museum of Gettysburg in the Civil War, a new gallery to display the restored Cyclorama Painting, curatorial space, office space, limited food service, and a book and museum store. Funds for the \$68 million facility have been raised by the Gettysburg National Battlefield Museum Foundation, which will also operate the facility on behalf of the NPS (at no cost to the NPS) for twenty years. After that, both the land and the facility will be donated to the NPS.

Mammoth Cave National Park, Kentucky

The **rehabilitated Mammoth Cave Visitor Center** will be completed in January 2008 with \$7.9 million in public funds. The funding is being provided from entrance fee revenues.

Gettysburg National Military Park, Pennsylvania

The **Wills House** in downtown Gettysburg is scheduled to come on-line in the winter/spring of 2008. The Wills House is on the National Register of Historic Places, and enjoys national renown as the place where President Abraham Lincoln spent the night before delivering the Gettysburg Address on November 19, 1863. This is a line-item construction project (earmarked by Senator Santorum), which will rehabilitate the structure to its 1863 appearance, and install exhibits for its future life as a public Lincoln Museum.

Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming & Montana

Replacement of the current **Old Faithful Visitor Center** with a building that encourages visitors to enter and explore what they can do in the park and gather information about the thermal features found within the park. Partners are providing \$15,000,000 and the NPS \$12,206,000 towards this facility. Completion date is June 2008.

Morris Thompson Cultural and Visitor Center, Alaska

This **new facility** will house the Fairbanks Alaska Public Lands Information Center (run by the NPS for all federal and state land managers), the Fairbanks Convention and Visitor Bureau, Tanana Chiefs Conference, and Denakkanaaga's cultural and education programs. Funding to date has been about \$16 million in federal funds (through NPS statutory aid), and small amounts of private contributions. State funding is expected to total \$4 million. Spring 2008 is the estimated completion date.

Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming & Montana

This project is a **restoration of the West Wing of Old House at Old Faithful Inn**, including upgrade of utility infrastructure, provide structural stabilization and improve fire/safety. Completion is expected in June 2008 at a cost of \$ 11 million.

Denali National Park, Alaska

Replacement of the Eielson Visitor Center in Denali National Park is under way, and scheduled for opening in summer 2008. This project was funded with \$9.6 million in Federal funds.

Western Arctic National Parklands Heritage & Visitor Center, Alaska

The Western Arctic Center in Kotzebue, Alaska is under construction and should be completed in the summer of 2008. The project was funded with \$ 12 million in Federal funds.

Ford's Theatre National Historic Site, Washington, DC

The National Park Service, in partnership with Ford's Theatre Society (FTS), will make **life-safety and accessibility improvements** to the site. The FY 07 Construction Program includes \$3.2 million for Phase 1; FY 08 Construction Program includes \$3.3 million for Phase 2. FTS will provide \$2.3 million in FY 07 for improvements that are their responsibility (lighting, stage rigging, etc.) under the terms of a general agreement. Completion of all work is scheduled for August 2008 to coincide with the planned Presidential Gala at Ford's Theatre to be held in September 2008.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial, Washington, DC

Authorized Nov 1996 (P.L. 104-33), this **new memorial** will be built by the MLK, Jr Foundation on a 7 acre site on the northwest corner of the Tidal Basin, along Independence Avenue. Concept design has been approved. FY 06 Interior Appropriations Act provides \$10 million for the memorial as a match to private contributions received between July 26, 2005 and November 12, 2008. Construction could begin in 2007, with completion in 2008.

Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming & Montana

The **Grant Village Visitor Center** is being rehabilitated. The work includes roof and exterior stain, replace heating system, modify entire building to be handicap accessible, and construct backcountry office adjacent to visitor center. Expected completion is September 2008 at a cost of \$ 500,000.

2009

Vietnam Veterans Center, Washington, DC

Authorized Nov 2003 (P.L. 108-126), this **underground visitor facility** "at or near" the Vietnam Veterans Memorial will be built by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund. VVMF has begun a \$60 million fundraising campaign. NPS and VVMF are preparing requisite EA to gain site approval for the area south of Constitution Avenue, between Bacon Drive and 23rd Street. VVMF anticipates completion in 2009.

Cape Hatteras National Seashore, North Carolina

The **rehabilitation of Bodie Island Lighthouse** will be completed in May 2009, at a cost of \$3.8 million in public funds.

Fort Raleigh National Historic Site, North Carolina

The **rehabilitation of the Fort Raleigh Visitor Center Complex** will be completed in May of 2009, with \$5.2 million in public funds.

Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve, Florida

The **replacement Visitor Center Facilities** at Cedar Point will be completed in May 2009 at a cost of \$ 3.3 million in public funds.